



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
**LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY**

**JERRY E. ABRAMSON**  
MAYOR

Dear Fellow Citizens,

I am pleased to present my fifth budget for Louisville Metro Government – a picture of progress.

Over the past few years, we have laid out a vision for a stronger, safer Louisville. And this budget continues the investment in improvements that are paying off for our citizens and our hometown.

With this spending plan, we continue the progress by:

- Improving public safety with increased investments in police, fire, EMS and our MetroSafe Emergency Communications Network;
- Fostering job growth and economic expansion from the fast-beating heart of our city, the downtown, and to the Corridors of Opportunity, the commercial arteries that stretch to our suburbs;
- Redefining Louisville as the “City of Parks” as we preserve land and develop new parks and recreational opportunities throughout our community;
- Strengthening neighborhoods and families with investments in both bricks and mortar and minds and hearts;
- And working to make government even more efficient and effective.

This budget continues our progress despite soaring increases in mandated spending for employee pensions, health insurance and other personnel costs that consume the steady revenue growth from an expanding local economy. This trend cannot continue without significant consequences.

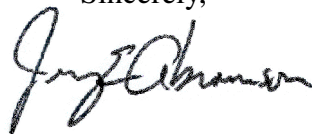
My spending plan adds funding to put more police officers on the street, more health inspectors in restaurants and more animal control officers in our neighborhoods. But it makes corresponding reductions in positions elsewhere, because we simply cannot afford to increase the size of our workforce.

I'm proud of the major milestones we will reach as a result of this budget including:

- Creating a state-of-the-art nerve center for emergency response with funding for Phase III of the MetroSafe Emergency Communications Network, a headquarters and technology system to better connect our emergency responders and improve response to citizens in need;
- Beginning construction on two firehouses and developing designs for a third, part of our 21<sup>st</sup> Century Fire plan and the largest financial investment in fire modernization in the city's history;
- And breaking ground on a new Animal Services center and adoption complex off Newburg Road near the Watterson Expressway to replace the aging, inadequate former county government facility;

Budgets are written in one-year installments, but visions are developed over many years with rigor, resilience and resolve. I appreciate your partnership in bringing our vision to reality thus far and look forward to your continued support in years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry E. Abramson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jerry" and last name "Abramson" clearly distinguishable.

Jerry E. Abramson